

MADELEINE DEAN
4TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3804

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May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
2207 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
2413 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Rowland Community Center Renovation Project in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Cheltenham Township, located at 8230 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027.

The funding would be used to demolish a 14,000 sq. ft. section of the community center due to significant structural impairments and public safety hazard. The remaining 26,000 sq ft will be renovated to include fully replacing the mechanical & electrical systems, replacing floors, ceilings, windows, exterior doors; upgrading restrooms, plumbing and installing security and fire protection systems to bring the property to current building code compliance & meet Federal ADA requirements. Funds will afford the installation of a new HVAC system that will permit the Center to operate year-round verses currently being closed during cold months.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Rowland Community Center is in the walkable neighborhood of Cheltenham Village, providing a variety of community services to the public since 1977. Due to its distressed physical condition and non-compliance of the current building code, the center has not operated at full capacity since 2020. Rehabilitation of the Center will allow the facility to return to full operational capacity & provide year-round indoor/outdoor instructional and recreational programs, library services, gymnasium, performance stage, summer programming, senior citizen initiatives and house community meeting rooms. The improvements would cease endless temporary fixes that strain the township's monetary and labor resources, improve the aesthetic in the surrounding residential neighborhood, maximize its useful life, expand its offerings as a civic space & build a stronger, safer & inclusive community.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Madeleine Dean". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small dot above the 'i' in Madeleine.

Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress